AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A programmable logic device comprising:

- a number of logic blocks with configurable characteristics which in each case comprise at least one processing unit with function programs and interfaces to the in each case other logic blocks,

- at least one input/output unit associated with the logic blocks, and

- means for linking the logic blocks

a) to one another,

b) to at least one of the processing units of another logic block and

c) to the at least one input/output unit,

characterized by reconfigurability of the logic blocks (3A to 3D) during the entire operation of the logic device (7), due to the fact that the linking elements additionally exhibit at least one configurable changeover logic block (8) by means of which at least some of the reconfigurable logic blocks (3A to 3D) themselves and/or their connections to one another and/or their connections to the at least one processing unit (4) and/or their

connections of the at least one input/output unit (5) are configured,

wherein the changeover logic block (8) is constructed in a first plane (E2) which differs from a second, non-coplanar plane (E1) with the reconfigurable logic blocks (3A to 3D), and

wherein the first and second planes (E1, E2) are constructed at least largely equivalently.

2-3. (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that at least some of the reconfigurable logic blocks (3A to 3D) are configured in accordance with a predetermined context (c).

5. (previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the changeover logic block (8) exhibits at least one state memory which contains information with respect to the functions of the individual reconfigurable logic blocks (3A to 3D), and that the selected reconfigurable logic blocks are configured in accordance with the function information of the selected state.

6. (new) The device of claim 1, wherein the first plane is located above the second plane.

7. (new) The device of claim 1, wherein the first plane is located below the second plane.

8. (new) A programmable logic device comprising:

plural logic blocks (3A, 3B, 3C, 3D) with configurable characteristics, the plural logic blocks being located within a first plane,

a processing unit (4) with function programs and interfaces to each of the logic blocks;

an input/output unit associated with the logic blocks; and

a linking part linking the logic blocks a) to one another, b) to at least one of the processing units of another logic block, and c) to the input/output unit, wherein,

the linking parts comprise a configurable changeover logic block (8) connected to the logic blocks and operative to reconfigure, during operation of the logic device, the connections of the logic blocks (3A to 3D) to another logic block and to the processing unit (4), the changeover logic block being located within a second plane and being located outside the first plane, and

the first plane and the second plane are constructed at least largely equivalent.

9. (new) The device of claim 8, wherein the first plane is located above the second plane.

10. (new) The device of claim 8, wherein the first plane is located below the second plane.

11. (new) The device of claim 8, wherein the processing unit (4) is located within the first plane and is located between each of the logic blocks.